

**Table A - STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ELIMINATION OF CATEGORICAL WAIVERS CURRENTLY AUTHORIZED BY NORTH COAST REGIONAL WATER BOARD RESOLUTION NOS. 87-113, 89-131, & 92-135**

Current Waiver Category	Current Waiver Conditions	Preliminary Staff Recommendation to Regional Water Board
Drilling muds (Not geothermal drilling muds)	Discharges to sumps with at least 2-feet of freeboard. Sump must be dried by evaporation or pumping. Drilling muds may remain in sump only if discharger demonstrates it is inert waste. Sump area shall be restored to preconstruction state within 60 days of completion or abandonment of well.	General Waste Discharge Requirements should be developed & used in lieu of a categorical waiver. The current categorical waiver for Drilling Muds should be terminated or allowed to expire effective 1-1-03.
Clean Oils	Used for beneficial purposes such as dust control, weed control, & mosquito abatement, where water quality will not be adversely impacted & where oil cannot reach State waters.	Weed control & mosquito abatement applications are now covered by Statewide General Permits. Waivers or waste discharge requirements are not required for other applications which do not generate wastes & do not adversely impact water quality. The current categorical waiver for Clean Oils should be terminated or allowed to expire effective 1-1-03.
Minor Dredging Operations	When operation is short-term & spoil is non-toxic, & discharge is to land.	Waiver category is now covered by the 401-certification program or will be covered by the Statewide General Permit for Wetland & Fill currently under development by the State Water Board. The current categorical waiver for Minor Dredging Operations should be terminated or allowed to expire effective 1-1-03.

Inert Solid Wastes (non-water soluble, non-decomposable, non-hazardous, i.e. earth, rock, concrete, etc.)	Small-scale operations using good disposal & erosion control practices. Complies with California Administrative Code, Title 23, Chapter 3, Subchapter 15, Section 2524.	A General Permit should be developed & used for future discharges of inert solid wastes. The current categorical waiver for Inert Solid Wastes should be terminated or allowed to expire effective 1-1-03. <b>Note:</b> Current waiver conditions are no longer applicable, as the reference to Subchapter 15 is out of date.
Test Pumpings of Fresh Water Wells	Pollutants are neither present nor added, & the well is not part of a groundwater cleanup project.	General Waste Discharge Requirements should be developed & used in lieu of a categorical waiver. The current categorical waiver for Test Pumpings of Fresh Water Wells should be terminated or allowed to expire effective 1-1-03.
Erosion from Construction Projects	Operation complies with the Basin Plan & BMPs have been formulated & implemented	This waiver category is now covered by statewide regulations for storm water. The current waiver category for Erosion from Construction Projects should be terminated or allowed to expire effective 1-1-03.
Pesticide Rinse Waters from Applicators	Discharger complies with "Pesticides Guidance Document" (SWRCB), January 26, 1982 & with California Administrative Code, Title 23, Chapter 3, Subchapter 15.	The current waiver category for Pesticide Rinse Waters from Applicators should be terminated or allowed to expire effective 1-1-03. Until then, a categorical waiver may be appropriate only if rinsing occurs on-site as part of the application project. Site-specific waste discharge requirements should be adopted for future projects, as appropriate.
Minor Stream Channel Alterations & Suction Dredging	Regulated by the California Department of Fish and Game	This waiver category is now covered by the 401-Certification Program. Where appropriate, site-specific waste discharge requirements should be adopted. The current waiver category for Minor Stream Channel Alterations & Suction Dredging should be terminated or allowed to expire effective 1-1-03.
Small Mining Operations	Operations confined to land & toxic materials are not used in recovery operations, & no water quality impacts are anticipated.	The current waiver category for Small Mining Operations should be terminated or allowed to expire effective 1-1-03. Site -specific waste discharge requirements should be adopted for future projects, as appropriate.

Minor Hydro Projects	Operating under Water Rights Permit from SWRCB or Department of Fish & Game conditions, & no water quality impacts are anticipated, & CEQA documents are prepared.	This waiver category is now covered by the 401-Certification Program & statewide regulations for storm water. The current waiver category for Minor Hydro Projects should be terminated or allowed to expire effective 1-1-03.
Projects Requiring Water Quality Certification	Project (normally minor construction) is not expected to have a significant water quality impact, & project complies with Department of Fish & Game conditions, & CEQA documents are prepared or are not required.	This waiver category is now covered by the 401-Certification Program. The statewide General Permit for Wetlands & Fill (under development) will apply when wetlands are involved. The current waiver category for Projects Requiring Water Quality Certification should be terminated or allowed to expire effective 1-1-03.
Dewatering at Construction Projects	Activity will not last more than 60 days, & no pollutants are present, & there is no discharge to surface waters.	This category of waste is now covered by a General Permit. The current waiver category for Dewatering at Construction Projects should be terminated or allowed to expire effective 1-1-03.
Discharge from Flushing of Domestic Water Lines & Tanks	If discharge is without toxic constituents.	General Waste Discharge Requirements should be developed & used in lieu of a categorical waiver. The current categorical waiver for Discharge from Flushing of Domestic Water Lines & Tanks should be terminated or allowed to expire effective 1-1-03.
Discharge from Hydrostatic Test Lines	Project is not expected to have a significant water quality impact, & discharge will be done in a manner to minimize erosion.	General Waste Discharge Requirements should be developed & used in lieu of a categorical waiver. The current categorical waiver for Discharge from Hydrostatic Test Lines should be terminated or allowed to expire effective 1-1-03.